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SUBJECT The Chinese Communist 35 Army

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1. Former Nationalist troops under the command of WU Hwa-wen who defected to the Communists were reorganized as the 35 Army of the 3 Field Army. After the Yangtze crossing the army was assigned the task, with the 7 Army Group, of assaulting the Choushan Islands. However, the 35 Army was not permitted to take part in the campaign because the Communists did not have confidence in it.
2. The troops were placed under strict control and given an intensive training course. By June 1950 training and reorganization were complete and a large number of Communists had been placed in the army, mainly as platoon commanders. The army was ordered to Choushan and WU was transferred to an appointment as head of the Suchow Military Control Commission. He was replaced as commander by the 35 Army political commissar.

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Comment. The transfer of WU to a new post demonstrates that the Communists have gained complete control over the army, which will soon be given combat duty. This is the first time that the 3 Field Army has used a defected Nationalist force which has remained fairly intact.

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25X1 [redacted] Comment. [redacted] possible
use of the 35 Army. [redacted] This document is hereby regraded to [redacted]

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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